Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 PRS-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /085 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:CAKENNEDY:BDF APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER NEA/RA:DMORRISON

-----161227Z 105855 /22

R 160226Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, ETRD, PFOR

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT--XEROX

REF: (A) STATE 79003; (B) STATE 80062

1. WILLIAM C. MILLER OF XEROX CORPORATION AND TWO OTHERS CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER APRIL 14 TO DISCUSS XEROX INVESTMENT PROPOSAL IN EGYPT AND RELATED BOYCOTT ISSUE. MILLER SAID THAT XEROX HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES STATING THAT XEROX INVESTMENT PROPOSAL FOR EGYPT HAS BEEN APPROVED. LETTER DID NOT QUALIFY APPROVAL BY USING TERM "IN PRINCIPLE" NOR MENTION ANY CONDITIONS. XEROX FEELS THAT GOE ALWAYS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS UNDERSTOOD THAT ITS INVESTMENT PROPOSAL WAS CONTINGENT ON XEROX REMOVAL FROM ARAB BOYCOTT LIST INASMUCH AS THE MARKET FOR ITS EGYPTIAN OPERATION WOULD HAVE TO BE THE ARAB COUNTRIES (INCLUDING EGYPT, BUT MAINLY OTHERS).

2. SOBER BRIEFED XEROX OFFICIALS ALONG LINES REFTEL. HE ENCOURAGED XEROX OFFICIALS TO PRESS GOE TO TAKE LEAD IN

GETTING XEROX DE-BLACKLISTED. EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE COULD BE COMPLEMENTED BY FIRM'S OWN EFFORTS. USG COULD THEN SEE HOW IT COULD PLAY HELPFUL ROLE.

- 3. MILLER SAID THAT THREE XEROX OFFICIALS WILL BE VISITING EGYPT APRIL 25-26 IN CONJUNCTION WITH EGYPT-U.S. BUSINESS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THEY HOPE TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR EILTS AND GOE OFFICIALS DURING THIS VISIT. CURRENTLY, THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE CAIRO SUNDAY, APRIL 24, WITH RESERVATIONS AT MERIDIAN HOTEL.
- 4. XEROX OFFICIALS ALSO PLANNING TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT. SAUDI CONNECTION IS ALIREZA FAMILY AND IN KUWAIT, AL RASHAD. SOBER EXPRESSED VIEW THAT MOST EFFECTIVE APPROACH REGARDING THEIR BOYCOTT PROBLEMS IN THESE COUNTRIES MIGHT BE THROUGH THEIR LOCAL COMMERCIAL CONNECTIONS. XEROX OFFICERS WERE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO SEEK COUNSEL FROM OUR EMBASSIES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EINV, ETRD, PFOR, BTRA, US, EG, XEROX

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